




RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF NORTON.

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.

FOR THE YEAR 1942.



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NORTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the report on the health of the district for the year 1942.

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (in acres) 92,279.

Population (estimated 1942) 7,857; (1939) 7,882.

Number of inhabited houses 2,068.

Rateable Value £19,975.

Product of Penny Rate £83.

Agriculture forms the sole industry of the area. Since the emergency there has been no unemployment in the district, and the standard of living has considerably improved.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Percentage correlation of the Registrar-General's Statistics.

			Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate	....	121	63	58	}	Birth rate per 1,000 population 17.2
	Illegitimate	....	14	8	6		
	Total	....	135	71	64		

Birth Rate for 1941 15.2.

Still Births	....	....	....	4	2	2	}	Rate per 1,000 births 30
Deaths	....	....	....	73	33	40		
							}	Rate per 1,000 population 9.3

Death Rate for 1941 12.1.

The comparison with the National rates remains good.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
Norton Rural District	17.2	9.3
England and Wales	15.8	11.6

There were once more no deaths from puerperal causes.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	29
Legitimate per 1,000 live births	....	....	24.8
Illegitimate per 1,000 live births	....	....	71

Rate for England and Wales 49.

Deaths from Cancer	....	....	....	....	10
Deaths from Measles	....	....	....	....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2)	....	....	....	....	Nil

Although all these figures compare favourably with the National figures, and with the figures for this area in 1941, it would be invidious to draw comparisons, as the population is so small as to be the cause of considerable fluctuations in percentage statistics from year to year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health.

W. THISTLETHWAITE, M.B., Ch.B. (part-time Officer).

Sanitary Inspector.

O. MILBURN, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.

Nursing.

Nursing facilities in the area are provided by the Westow & District Nursing Association: Nurse I. L. G. Walters, S.R.N., S.C.M., and by the Ganton and District Nursing Association: Nurse M. Curl, S.R.N., S.C.M., Ganton, and also by two County Midwives: Nurse V. Hunt, S.C.M., Burton Fleming, and Nurse F. V. Fish, S.R.N., S.C.M., Norton, both of whom reside on opposite borders of, but just outside the district, and who practice extensively in the area.

The local nursing associations are supported by fees and subscriptions, and by grants in aid from the County Council, towards the provision of maternity services under the Midwives' Acts, but the implementation of the Rushcliffe Report, whilst welcomed as due, will throw an increased strain on the limited financial resources of a rural community.

Medical Relief.

There is only a small demand for Public Assistance in the area. The provision of supplementary pensions has largely satisfied a need, together with relief from rates in necessitous cases. Medical and nursing facilities are provided for those in receipt of supplementary pensions.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Ministry of Health laboratory at Driffeld, and the County Council has arranged that no charge be made for these examinations.

Routine periodic examinations of milk and water samples are made at the E.M.S. laboratory, Northallerton, and swabs are also sent to the North Riding laboratory at Scarborough.

Material for diphtheria immunisation is obtained from the E.M.S. laboratory and also from the County Council.

Ambulances.

There is no civilian ambulance in the Rural District. Cases are taken to Malton Hospital in the Malton ambulance, and to the Scarborough Hospital in the Cloughton ambulance.

A.R.P. Ambulances.

An ambulance is stationed at Rillington, and there are three at Norton just outside the area, which are available.

Cars for sitting cases are registered. These services are adequate.

Home Nursing.

This is provided in the two specified areas by local endeavour. The problem of an all-embracing service is one of transportation and finance, in view of the widely scattered, sparsely populated and economically limited nature of the district.

Treatment Centres.

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held every four weeks at Sherburn, and is well attended and fulfils a marked need. In the twelve years since its inception the standard of physique, health, hygiene and care of the children under five has shown a very appreciable improvement.

Hospitals.

There are none in the area, but the district is well served by the Malton Cottage Hospital and the Scarborough General Hospital.

Hostels and sick-bays and maternity homes for evacuated children and evacuated mothers are adequate and well used.

Infectious diseases are treated at the Driffeld Isolation Hospital. An ambulance is sent from there for removal of cases.

Isolation is also provided at Norton, Stamford Bridge and at Ayton for evacuated children.

Clinics.

Tuberculosis : Every two months, at Norton.

Orthopædic : Malton, Scarborough, Driffeld, every four weeks during school terms.

Venereal Disease : York and Scarborough, four sessions each week.

Housing.

Plans are under consideration and are making progress for the provision of cottages for agricultural workers, and for a large housing development in the near future.

THE REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR IS APPENDED.

Sanitary Inspections.

Housing Nuisances under the Public Health Acts, Water Sampling, Sewerage, Military Co-operation, etc.

(a) No. of inspections—974.

(b) Number of informal and statutory notices served—

Statutory Nil.

Informal 24.

Informal notices complied with—24.

(c) New drains and repairs—19.

(d) Structural alterations—5.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to licensed slaughterhouses, etc.—182.

The following food was condemned :—

Eggs, 130.

Biscuits, 60 lbs.

Sugar, 2 lbs.

Apples 6 lbs.

Milk, 261 tins.

Butter, 90 lbs.

Bacon, 15 lbs.

Meat Pies, 170.

Cheese, 10 lbs.

Oats, 14 lbs.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Disease	Total Cases	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	11	6	0
Whooping Cough	7	0	0
Measles	5	0	0
Diphtheria	2	2	0

There was no epidemic during the year.

377 children were immunised against diphtheria in 1942.

At the recommendation of the Ministry of Health the dosage has been increased to 0.2 cc. for the first & 0.5 cc. for the second dose.

TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non. Resp.		Resp.		Non. Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-10			1					
10-20			1					
20-30	1	3				2		
30-40					1	1		
50-60		2						
70-80					1			

New Cases 8.

Deaths 5.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. THISTLETHWAITE,

Medical Officer of Health.

